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MEMORANDUM

TO: North Dakota Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs
COPY: ND State's Attorneys
FROM: Thomas L. Trenbeath,
Chief Deputy Attorney General 
DATE: February 7, 2008
RE: **Crime Laboratory – Submission of DNA Evidence**

It has recently been brought to our attention that there may be some confusion over the Crime Laboratory's enforcement of a new DNA Evidence submission policy.

In March 2007, this office distributed a memorandum to local law enforcement and county state's attorneys regarding the new guidelines for submission of DNA evidence to the crime lab, and the policy effective date. The memorandum explained the new policy was approved by the Crime Lab Advisory Committee, and that the Crime laboratory was directed to begin operating under the new policy as of April 1, 2007.

The March 2007 memorandum was intended for wide distribution. Although some counties have been operating under this new policy, it appears that through an oversight on our part the 2007 memorandum may not have been sent to every local law enforcement agency.

If your agency did not receive a copy of the March 2007 memorandum, please accept my apologies for the oversight and for any confusion or inconvenience that may have occurred as a result. A copy of that memorandum is attached hereto for your information.

If you have any questions regarding the DNA Evidence Submission policy, please contact Burleigh County Assistant State's Attorney Cynthia Feland, Chair of the Crime Lab Advisory Committee, at (701) 222-6672.

Thank you.

Enc. Copy of Memorandum dated March 16, 2007